

though it is a difficult issue, we have tackled it.

For climate change, we need to act.

We surely do. I am talking to pretty much an empty Chamber, but I am glad the Presiding Officer is here, and I feel a few people are watching. It is good. But there are a few of us who are determined to keep on bringing the facts to the floor of the Senate. Everyone has the right to act or not act, but I believe we need to make the record now, because when my grandchildren grow up, I want them to look back and say: Wow. That was great what grandma's generation did. They took care of this issue. I don't want them to look back and say: What were they thinking? What was wrong with them? Why didn't they act when they could have made a difference?

So next week I will be back. I will be talking about national security threats. This is one of the biggest national security threats we face. That doesn't come from me. That comes from the Pentagon. It comes from the CIA. It comes from the national security teams. So we can just close our eyes to this and we can wish it goes away, but it is not going away or we can ease the pain of climate disruption by moving to clean energy, energy efficiency, and we will face a win-win as we eventually have better public health, save money, and save the planet.

Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota. Mr. President, I come to the floor today in strong opposition to Amendment No. 115, offered by the junior Senator from Pennsylvania, to strike funding for the Department of Defense's, DoD, Advanced Drop-In Biofuel Production.

The intent of this amendment is to further limit the Department of Defense's ability to use alternative fuels to enhance our country's national security. Under the authorities of the Defense Production Act, DPA, the Department of Defense has created the Advanced Drop-In Biofuels Production Project. This initiative is focused on creating a public-private partnership that will provide incentives for private-sector investment in cost competitive, advanced biofuels production capability. It also requires at least a one-to-one cost share with private stakeholders. During consideration of the National Defense Authorization Act of 2013, the Senate demonstrated bipartisan support for DoD's alternative energy initiatives. This amendment would prevent DoD from taking the necessary steps to diversify its energy supply.

As chairman of the Banking Committee, which has jurisdiction over the DPA, I believe it is misguided to limit the authority of the Defense Department to continue with this project. As one of the largest consumers of oil in the world, the Department of Defense spent \$17 billion in fiscal year 2011 on petroleum-based fuels. When oil prices spike, this dependency forces the Department of Defense to reallocate fund-

ing from other critical needs. Last year alone, spikes in oil prices required the Navy to pay an additional \$500 million on higher fuel costs. Amendment No. 115 will further increase DoD's vulnerability to fluctuations in the price of oil.

This amendment should also be opposed because if it were adopted it would not have the effect intended. Due to a technical drafting error this amendment would not strip money from the account that funds biofuel production, but rather other unrelated programs at the DoD. The amendment still scores in outlays per the Congressional Budget Office and is subject to a budget point of order. This technical drafting error is another reason for Members to oppose this amendment.

The renewable fuels industry has played an important role in addressing our energy needs. Unfortunately, this amendment would hinder our Nation's ability to promote renewable domestic energy sources. We should allow the Defense Department to retain its authority to take steps to diversify the energy sources available to our military. Our national security relies on energy security, and this amendment would weaken both.

I urge all my colleagues to oppose this amendment.

I yield the floor and I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that we proceed to a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak for up to 10 minutes each.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

TRIBUTE TO JUDGE JOE CHRIST

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, with a heavy heart, I rise today to say a few words about a wonderful, talented public servant who unexpectedly passed away recently.

Joseph Christ was a longtime prosecutor in St. Clair County, IL, home of the city that I grew up in, East St. Louis.

In his almost 20 years as an assistant State's attorney, he worked hard to keep criminals off our streets and help victims' families find justice.

Then, just two weeks ago, he was sworn in as an Associate Judge on Illinois' 20th Circuit and began his new journey.

His colleagues from the prosecutor's office said great things about his time there and what a great judge he would make.

But the next weekend, while on an out-of-town trip a few days after being sworn in, he passed away from natural—though certainly unexpected—causes.

We will never know all the good things he would have accomplished as judge, but we can reflect on the good he did while he was with us.

Surely his record indicates that he would have accomplished many more good deeds in the years to come.

He was taken from his wife and children too soon. They are in my thoughts and prayers.

RECOGNIZING THE IAWP AND DICK FREEMAN

Mr. HARKIN. Mr. President, I would like to congratulate the International Association of Workforce Professionals, IAWP, for a century of leadership in enhancing the professionalism and excellence of America's workforce systems. IAWP will have a special celebration of this centennial milestone during its annual International Educational Conference in Chicago from July 6 to 10. IAWP was founded in Chicago and also celebrated its 50th and 75th anniversaries in that great Midwestern city. The association will honor its founder, W.M. Leiserson, superintendent of Wisconsin Employment Offices. In 1913, he reached out to his counterparts in other States to organize a nationwide association of public employment offices. Since its founding, IAWP has consistently worked to advance its founding principles: to provide members with education, leadership opportunities, information exchange, and recognition of excellence. In particular I would also like to applaud one of my constituents, Dick Freeman, who is receiving a much deserved Lifetime Achievement Award from IAWP at its July conference.

Dick has been a member of the Iowa chapter of IAWP for 41 years, including serving as the Iowa legislative chair since 1985. He has received the Iowa I-Care Award numerous times during his tenure of more than four decades with the association. This award is given for professionals who perform above and beyond normal leadership duties.

Dick played an important role in planning and hosting IAWP's 1990 International Educational Conference in Des Moines. He was the deputy director of the Iowa chapter when it chose to compete to host that year's International Education Conference. Iowa won the bid thanks to Dick's initiative and persistence. Approximately 1,200 IAWP members attended the 1990 conference in Iowa.

Mr. President, I am very pleased to recognize Dick Freeman for his many decades of dedicated service to IAWP members in Iowa and all across the Nation. Again, I congratulate the International Association of Workforce Professionals for 100 years of service to America's workers.